

[The Book of Colossians](#)
CHAPTER 1 Verses 1-14
“Our God is an Awesome God”
Part 1

Return To
All Commentary

In the Bible, there are 256 names for Jesus. This is because no single name could ever describe completely, who Jesus is.

The reason that the book of Colossians is so interesting to me, is that it declares that in the immense space of the estimated universe, it was all spoken into existence by Jesus.

1. **Our Milky Way Galaxy** is one of the smallest galaxies in the universe with about **1 billion Stars.**
2. **Yet the Milky way Galaxy** that Earth resides in, is more than **100,000 light years** across.
3. **This means that** traveling at the speed of light, **186,000 miles per second, or 670 million miles per hour, it would take 100,000 years** just to cross the Milky Way Galaxy that Earth is located in.
4. **There are estimated,** at least **50 billion** other Galaxies like the Milky Way that we live in.
5. **Each one of these 50 Billion** other Galaxies, has an estimated **1 Trillion** stars in each one of them.

David described the Universe best...

Psalms 19:1 ¶

The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.

How big is the Universe that Colossians declares that Jesus Made?

Isaiah 40:12

*The Lord...Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, **Measured heaven with a span of His Hand,** and calculated the dust of the earth in a measure? Weighed the mountains in scales And the hills in a balance? (Italics, text added for understanding)*

It's not really that big, The whole Universe fits in the span of Jesus Hand!

In The Old Testament, through prophecy, the Lord predicted that the One who would come, who would be the Messiah, would have to be descended from King David.

Isaiah 9:7

Of the increase of His government and peace **There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom,** To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever

There are 2 genealogies in the New Testament that describe for us, why Jesus has the Right to be the promised Messiah.

Matthew gives to us the genealogy of Joseph, Jesus Adopted Father, (Because Jesus was not from the seed of a man, but was conceived by the Holy spirit.)

Luke gives to us the genealogy of Mary, Jesus Mother.

Another reason that there are 2 genealogies in the New Testament, is that the Lord established in the Old Testament “That out of the mouth of two witnesses a matter shall be established” (Deuteronomy 19:15)

1. **Luke’s genealogy takes Jesus all the way back to Adam**, showing that Jesus is a Man being descended from Adam like all of us.
2. **Matthew’s genealogy shows that Jesus is descended from Abraham**, the Father of all of those who have faith.
3. **The detail of these 2 genealogies** shows us that we were not an afterthought to God. He knew us, saw us, and planned to provide a way to save us, even before the Earth was created.
4. **You were not descended from a singles cell amoeba** that climbed up out of the sludge pond, you were descended from Adam, Made in the Image and Likeness of the Living God!
5. **Matthew’s genealogy shows us that**, even though Joseph was not Jesus Birth father, because Joseph descended from Abraham and David, Jesus has “The Legal right to be the Messiah.”
6. **Through Luke, Mary’s genealogy** coming through David, gives Jesus the Physical, and blood Right to be the Messiah.

What I find really amazing, is the third genealogy that most people miss in the Gospel of John...

1. **John begins his account of Jesus** with “**In the beginning was the Word, and the word was with God and the Word was God....**”
2. **John is writing for the express purpose** of showing to us that Jesus is God, “**THE GOD**”, the only God.
3. **Since God has no beginning**, He could not have a genealogy past “**He has always existed**”.
4. **That is why John says of Jesus**, “**In the beginning was the Word...**” In the beginning, Jesus was already in existence...

Johns single line is a genealogy, short as it may be, it is a single genealogy that says that Jesus has always existed, He is not a created being, but is Himself, the One that Created Everything!

The reason that this is so important to us, is the same reason that the book of Colossians was so important to the people of this church that received it from Paul.

1. **Shortly after the church at Colosse was established**, teachers came along that began to deny that Jesus is God.

2. **They made Jesus** just a created man.
3. **Paul wrote this letter to the Colossians** to correct this false doctrine, and to confirm the truth that Jesus is God, the Creator and sustainer of all that exists.

One day, Jesus was brought to the Temple in Jerusalem by Peter, James and John. As He began to speak of what it would be like in the final days just before His return, He warned us to “Be careful that no one deceives us”

Matthew 24:4-5 ¶

4 And Jesus answered and said to them: “**Take heed that no one deceives you.**

5 For many will come in My name, saying, “I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many.

Today we live in a world of deception, where there are so many different ways that claim that they are the only way to heaven.

1. **Jesus claimed that He was The Way, The Truth, and The Life**, and that No one can come to the Father except through Him...”
2. **Either Jesus was** a Liar, He is not God, He is crazy, He just thinks that He is God, or He is telling the truth, He is The God of the whole Universe.
3. **Today, There are many different people** who are called “**Jesus**” in different religions around the world, **but they are not the same Jesus of the Bible.**
4. **Their Jesus, is not the same as Our Jesus.** Their Jesus is a Created being, Their Jesus is not the only Eternal God.
5. **They claim that their Jesus is the same as the Jesus of the bible,** How can a person really know the difference?
6. **We need to realize that Satan is a very religious being,** He is the one that created Religion, with all of the counterfeits, so that people might not find the one true and genuine Jesus of the bible.
7. **If I lined up 10 different people,** all who claimed to be the Real Jesus”, would you be able to tell who the genuine was from all of the counterfeits?
8. **A counterfeit, by it’s very nature,** is something that looks so close to the truth that it is nearly impossible to detect.

The way that the United States Federal Treasury trains its agents to detect counterfeit money might surprise you.

- **They don’t spend countless hours looking at and studying counterfeit bills.**
They spend countless hours studying the true currency of the United States.

This way, they become so familiar with the truth, that when the false is presented to them, they instantly recognize it.

This was the case in the city of Colosse two thousand years ago. Already the simple truth of Jesus was being changed into something false, a Counterfeit.

Paul wrote this letter to the Christians at Colosse, to teach them about the real Jesus, and how to recognize the false...

2 Timothy 3:1,5

1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: ...people...
5 having a form of godliness but denying its power

Today, we have a lot of religion, but we only have ONE JESUS!

It is not the bible that gives Value to Jesus, It is the true and the genuine person of Jesus Christ that gives value all prophecy and all scripture.

Jesus is the only One that can say: “In the Volume of the book it is written of Me...”
Hebrews 10:7

In the book of Revelation, chapter 19, John said:

Revelation 19:10

10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! **For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.**”

It is the true Jesus that every page of the bible is about, and for that reason, every page of the bible is prophecy...

This is the purpose of our study in the book of Colossians, that by careful examination of the real Jesus, you might recognize a fake jesus when you see one.

Colossians 1:1

1 ¶ Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

Verse 1 by itself is amazing.

1. **Paul is an apostle?** This is the guy that so hated the first believers in Jesus that he carried orders with him from town to town so that he might arrest, and if possible, see Christians Stoned to death for believing in Jesus.
2. **Can Jesus change a person's life?** Just look at Paul then you tell me.
3. **Is it too late for a person?** Can you become unreachable by God? Have you done things in your life that are unforgivable?

No!

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if **anyone** is in Christ, he is **a new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Wherever you are at in your life this morning, Jesus can give you a brand new life. He can change all of the failures and disappointments into successes and Joys.

If you will just call on THE NAME OF JESUS right now where you are sitting, He will hear you.

- **If you ask Him** right now, He will forgive you.

- **If you ask Him**, He will come into your heart and begin to live in you.

Colossians 1:2

2 ¶ To **the saints** and **faithful** brethren in Christ who are in Colosse: ¶ **Grace to you and peace** from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is one of those areas that is a little hard for us to understand because of church tradition.

1. **Here, Paul calls every believer in Jesus “A Saint”**. It is not a title reserved for those who the church decides are saints. If you are following Jesus, the bible calls you “A Saint”.
2. **Paul also addresses this to “The Faithful”**. You might be saying, “**Well that leaves me out, I am not faithful**”. When the Bible speaks of being Faithful, it is talking about those who endure to the end with Jesus. Sometimes they struggle, sometimes they even fall, but they always get back up and continue to follow Jesus.
3. **Then Paul wishes the believers there in Colosse, “Grace and Peace”**. The problem for us many times, is that we try to have the Peace in our life, before we first experience Gods Grace in our life.
4. **I don’t care how hard you try**, until you experience the forgiveness that Jesus offers to you for all of your sins, you will never have peace in your life.
5. **Gods Grace is that He gives to everyone who asks**, complete forgiveness for all of the wrong they have done in their life, when they ask for it, through Jesus sacrifice on the Cross.
6. **When you partake of this Grace**, then all of the guilt is gone, then peace begins to flow like a river into your life.

Colossians 1:3

3 ¶ We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **praying always for you**,

One of the marks of a growing and maturing Christian, is a consistent prayer life.

1. **When a person firsts learns about Jesus** and then invites Him into their life, their prayers are usually centered around their needs.
2. **As a person begins to mature and grow**, they begin to also pray and intercede for other people,
3. **Here, we see that Paul was a tremendous man of prayer**, he was consistently praying for all of the believers there at the church of Colosse.

Colossians 1:4

4 since **we heard of your faith** in Christ Jesus **and of your love** for all the saints;

Now this is interesting, people heard of the faith of the believers in Colosse.

1. **I suppose we should ask ourselves, “Do people talk about and then hear about my faith in Jesus?”**
2. **Are we living our life in such a way** that our life is a witness to people around us that we are a follower of Jesus. Do people in other places hear about our following Jesus?

3. **And Notice the end of verse 4** , they were also hearing about their love for other believers.
4. **I am so glad that we are known as a church of people** who really love each other. Do you know why? Because this kind of love that we have for each other is really the only solid proof that we have that we really belong to Jesus.

John 13:35 Jesus Said:

35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Colossians 1:5

5 because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel,

Notice that the reason these believers in Colosse were able to have the kind of faith that other people sit up and take notice of, and to love other believers the way that they did, was because they understood “**The Hope that is laid up for them in heaven**”.

Do you have that hope today, a knowledge of what you are really destined for?

1. **Do you know how greatly you are loved**, that Jesus would give up everything to save you?
2. **Do you know that you are now Royalty**”, the Son or Daughter of the greatest king in the universe?
3. **Jesus has planned for you to Rule with Him** for 1,000 years, when He returns shortly.
4. **The Lives and eternal destiny of Angels and People**, will be under your authority.
5. **Every second of your life has been planned** before the foundation of the world, so that you will be blessed and taken care of to the maximum.

When you understand the hope that is already laid up for you, then it causes your faith and your love to grow tremendously.

Colossians 1:6

6 which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth;

1. **Notice that this standing that you have as a Son or Daughter**, “**Has come to you**”, you already have it.
2. **It is bringing forth fruit**. Sometimes we do not feel like we are bearing any fruit for Jesus. **That is because we forget that the pruning process is also a part of the “Bearing Fruit”**.
3. **Rest assured, you are bearing fruit** if you are trying to follow Jesus.
4. **And notice that all of this “Is among you since the day you first accepted Jesus into your life”**.
5. **And it will continue in your life**, until the day that Jesus comes for you.

Philippians 1:6

6 being confident of this very thing, that **He who has begun a good work in you will complete it** until the day of Jesus Christ;

Colossians 1:7-8

7 **as you also learned from Epaphras**, our dear fellow servant, who is **a faithful minister** of Christ on your behalf,
8 who also declared to us your love in the Spirit.

We don't know very much about this guy "Epaphras", Paul mentions him a couple of other times, once in Colossians chapter 4, and also in Philemon chapter 1.

Colossians 4:12

12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God

Philemon 1:23

23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you,

This is the Epaphroditus that Paul spoke of last week in our study in Philippians, that when Paul had a need, this is the guy that hand carried the offering from the church to Paul.

Philippians 2:25

25 Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need;

I would imagine, that Epaphras probably thought that the little work that he was doing was not very important.

- **Such are the thoughts many times** of those who are so faithfully serving the rest of the body of Christ in the areas of the **children's ministry, cleaning** and the other things that no one knows that you do.

Notice that we are reading about Epaphras faithfulness 2,000 years later here at Calvary Chapel!

- **Did you know that in the counsels of Heaven**, that The angels and other Christians will be talking about the "**Little Works**" that you think are so small.

Remember, to Jesus, there are no little works, in fact, those seemingly unimportant things here on earth that so many of you do for all of us in the background, sometimes without a word of "thanks", Jesus will reward you for them. AND THEY WON'T BE LITTLE BITTY REWARDS, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN!

From verse 9 to verse 11, there are "Twelve things" that Paul prayed for the Colossians:

1. To be filled with the knowledge of His will (Col. 1:9).

2. To be filled with all wisdom (Col. 1:9).
3. To have spiritual understanding (Col. 1:9).
4. To walk worthy of the Lord (Col. 1:10).
5. To walk pleasing to the Lord (Col. 1:10).
6. To be fruitful in all good works.
7. To increase in the knowledge of God.
8. To be strengthened with all might (Col. 1:11).
9. To have His glorious power.
10. To have all patience (Col. 1:11).
11. To have all longsuffering (Col. 1:11).
12. To have joy (Col. 1:11).

Colossians 1:9

9 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

1 To be filled with the knowledge of His will (Col. 1:9).

This is one of the questions that I get asked the most often, “How can I know the will of God in my life?”

- **First, you can know the will of the Lord in every situation** only by your surrendering your own control of the situation.
- **As long as you are content trying to keep things in your control**, the Lord is content to let you!
- **Next, You can only know the will of the Lord in your life**, when you stop fighting the circumstances of your life.
- **When a person asks, “Why did this happen to me”**, or “Why did the Lord allow this to Happen”, it means that they really don’t know the Lord.
- **For if we know Jesus**, and that He gave up everything and paid the ultimate cost to bring us forgiveness, **then we will understand that this was the hardest part, paying for our sin.** Since He has already given us the best, will He not also take care of the Rest, ABSOLUTELY!
- **So, stop worrying**, pray instead, wait instead, trust instead, go with the flow of whatever happens, and know that the Lord is working in your life...
- **Third, what you are doing right now most likely is His will for your life** Excluding the fact that you are involved in some kind of sin. The Job you have, the marriage you have, the town, the difficulty, the loss, the struggle, these most likely are exactly what the Lord wants for your life right now.
- **If you are struggling, then you are growing** and learning to trust, and this is where he most likely wants you right now.

2. To be filled with all wisdom (Col. 1:9).

There is only one source for all wisdom, “The Fountain”

John 7:38

38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.

John 15:7

7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

If you are living your life to please the Lord, then His promise is that when you need to know what to do, He will show you. Better than that, He will lead you...

3. To have spiritual understanding (Col. 1:9).

A knowledge of spiritual things comes by Walking in the Spirit.

- **Walking in the Spirit** is to be controlled by the Spirit in you, not to allow the flesh to rule.
- **You learn to control anger.**
- **You learn to control Impatience.**
- **You learn to control your tongue.**
- **You control what your eyes see, and your ears hear.**
- **You seek those things that are good, lovely, pure and of good report.**

Colossians 1:10

10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

4. To walk worthy of the Lord (Col. 1:10).

If you highly value something:

- You take care of it.
- You protect it.
- You do the maintenance to keep it up.
- You hold on to it.

If you value what Jesus has done for you, and your relationship with Him.

- **You will be taking care of your relationship with Jesus**, by spending quality time with Him. Talking to Him, worshipping Him, studying His Word.
- **You will protect that relationship**, you won't let anything come into your life that will change or reduce the Excellency of the relationship.
- **You will do the maintenance to keep it up**. Be in fellowship with other believers, Study The Word of God seriously, Give time and opportunity for prayer.
- **You will Hold on to it. You will not want it to go away**, you will keep it close, you will never let it go.

6. To walk pleasing to the Lord (Col. 1:10).

- **“Jesus, would this please you if I did this?”**
- **Jesus, would this please you if I said this?”**

7. To be fruitful in all good works.

Looking for opportunities to do good and righteous things. Here is the test, "For other people, even if they never thank you or even know that you did it for them..."

7. To increase in the knowledge of God.

Only one way to gain knowledge about Jesus, Read, Study, discuss with other believers, and Live what Gods Word says.

- **Are you asking Jesus to reveal more of Himself to you**, as you study His Word?
- **Are you seeking a greater knowledge of How Jesus works in your life**, when you go through trials?

Colossians 1:11

11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

8. To be strengthened with all might (Col. 1:11).

9. To have His glorious power.

10. To have all patience (Col. 1:11).

11. To have all longsuffering (Col. 1:11).

12. To have joy (Col. 1:11).

12 **giving thanks** to the Father who **has qualified us** to be **partakers of the inheritance** of the saints in the light.

13 He **has delivered us** from the power of darkness and **conveyed us into** the kingdom of the Son of His love,

14 in whom **we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.**

Remember:

- If you had the wisdom that Solomon Had.
- The Heart after God that David Had.
- The Humility of Moses.
- The Patience that John Had
- The tears of Jeremiah.
- The Voice of Elijah.
- The strength of Sampson.
- The Love and Endurance that Paul had,
- And the Courage that Daniel possessed.

You would still need the redemption that is only available through Jesus Blood!

There is a story of a father and son who worked for months to build a toy sailboat.

Every night when he came home from work the man and his boy would disappear into the garage for hours.

It was a labor of love--love for each other and for the thing they were creating.

The wooden hull was painted bright red and it was trimmed with gleaming white sails.

When it was finished, they traveled to a nearby lake for the boat's trial run.

Before launching it the father tied a string to its stern to keep it from sailing too far.

The boat performed beautifully, but before long a motorboat crossing the lake cut the string, and the sailboat drifted out of sight on the large lake.

All Attempts at finding the boat were fruitless, oth father and son wept over their loss.

A few weeks later as the boy was walking home from school he passed his favorite toy store and was amazed to see a toy sailboat in the window--his sailboat!

He ran inside to claim the boat, telling the proprietor about his experience on the lake.

The store owner explained that he had found the boat while on a fishing trip.

"You may be its maker," he said, "but as a finder I am its legal owner.

You may have it back--for fifty dollars."

The boy was stunned at how much it would cost him to regain his boat, but since it was so precious to him he quickly set about earning the money to buy it back.

Months later he joyfully walked into the toy store and handed the owner fifty dollars in exchange for his sailboat.

It was the happiest day of his life. As he left the store he held the boat up to the sunlight. Its colors gleamed as though newly painted.

"I made you, but I lost you," he said. "Now I've bought you back. That makes you twice mine, and twice mine is mine forever."

Jesus Made you, then when you were lost, he bought you back, and now His through the redemption that is in His Blood, You are His Forever!